[Mr. S. Parameswara Aiyar.]

Manager in the Conservator's Office.

48. MR. N. RAMAKRISHNA PILLAI (*Vaikam* cum *Ettumanur*): (*a*) Will the Government be pleased to say whether it is a fact that the late Conservator of Forests, Mr. Raman Menon, recommended the abolition of the Manager's post and the retirement of the present Manager in the Conservator's Office?

(*b*) Will the Government be pleased to say who the present Manager in the Conservator's Office is, what his qualifications are, and what the extent of his service is?

MR. S. PARAMESVARA AIYAR (*Secretary to Government*): (*a*) The answer is in the negative. Government ordered the abolition of the Manager's post in the Conservator's office on the strength of the report of the Salaries Committee. But, as the present Manager was not ripe for retirement and as there was no other suitable place for him, he was ordered to be kept on as a supernumerary manager till his retirement or he is otherwise provided for, the head clerk's post being kept vacant.

(*b*) The present Manager's name is Mr. S. Kalyanarama Aiyar. He has no qualifications; but is reported to be efficient. He has put in a service of 26 years and 7 months.

Excise Conference.

49. MR. N. RAMAKRISHNA PILLAI (*Vaikam* cum *Ettumanur*): Will the Government be pleased to state:

(*a*) whether there was a conference of the Excise Commissioner and the Assistant Excise Commissioners in 1099;

(*b*) whether any report as to the result of the conference has been submitted to the Government;

(*c*) whether it is a fact that the reduction of Excise divisions and the transfer of the power of collecting *kist* to the Land Revenue Department were decided upon at that conference; and

(*d*) whether the question of promoting temperance was considered at the conference?

MR. S. PARAMESVARA AIYAR (*Secretary to Government*): (*a*) Yes.

(*b*) Yes.

(*c*) Government have no information that the conference considered the question of reducing the number of Excise divisions. The question of transferring to the Land Revenue staff the work of collecting Excise revenue was considered by the conference.

(*d*) Yes.

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